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THE
MERITS
OF THE
CRAFTS-MEN
CONSIDER'D:

OR,
A DISPLAY of the Injuries offer'd
by that Party, not only to the Ministry
but to their MAJESTIES and the Con-
stitution.

Collected from their own WRITINGS;
And placed in their proper Light, for the Ser-
vice of the TRUE LOVERS of their COUNTRY.

Dedicated to the
FREEHOLDERS of GREAT-BRITAIN.

BY
R. FREEMAN, of *Old Palace-yard*, Esq;

Juxta se posita magis elucescunt.

L O N D O N :

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THE
MART
OF THE
CRAFTS-MEN
CONSIDERED

A History of the Industry of
the Craftsmen, not only in the Ministry
but in their Masters and the Com

CHAPTER IV
OF THE HISTORY OF THE CRAFTSMEN
IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II.

THE HISTORY OF THE CRAFTSMEN

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THE HISTORY OF THE CRAFTSMEN

DEDICATION

TO THE FREEHOLDERS OF GREAT-BRITAIN. COUNTRYMEN,

TO *you will doubtless receive many Advices and Exhortations in relation to the ensuing Elections; and it is highly possible, that some of these may be transmitted to you by the Country Journal; how candidly, honestly and loyally the Authors and Patrons of that Paper have acted in the Course of their Opposition to the Administration, in the following Pages I have laboured to shew.*

To you it belongs to consider, what is urged by all who are Candidates for your Favour; and it is undoubtedly a Point of the highest Importance

DEDICATION.

portance for you to determine, who are false Patriots, and who are true ones.

I am far either from thinking, or saying, as the Craftsman often has done, that Interest, not Reason; private Spleen, or private Benefit, not publick Spirit, or the Love of your Country, direct your Choice and secure your Voices. I am, on the contrary, persuaded of both your Integrity and Impartiality; and have made Use of Facts and Arguments, instead of Sneer and Declamation, to convince you of the Danger there is of some great Evil being brought on us by the present turbulent Faction amongst us. In doing which, I hope, I may be allowed to say,

I am,

Your Friend and Servant,

R. FREEMAN.



THE
MERITS
OF THE
CRAFTS-MEN
CONSIDER'D.

IF ever such a *Season* can happen, as shall require the utmost Endeavours of honest and disinterested Persons to *open* the *Eyes* of the *People of Britain*; to convince them of the *Evils*, into which, following the *Clamor* of wicked and designing *Men*, they may be fatally inclined to *run*; to place their true *Interest* in its proper *Light*, and to persuade them *unanimously* and with *Vigour* to *pursue* it: Certainly that *Season* is come; as will appear to any calm impartial *Person*, who considers the following *Reasons*.

First,

First, That the *Interest* of *Britain* being very nearly concerned in preserving a *Ballance* of *Power* in *Europe*; that is, in *keeping* its several *Potentates* within just *Bounds*, and in such a *Condition*, as may hinder any *one* from being able at *Pleasure* to overturn and swallow up his *Neighbours*. We see at present a *WAR* broke out, which in all probability will *one* way or other destroy this *Ballance*, and lodge an excessive *Power* in *one Prince*, or at least in *one Family*, sufficient to effect great *Mischiefs*, and of consequence more than sufficient to fill us with just *Caution*. A *WAR* entered into on *Motives* of a very obscure *Nature*, and such as are not to be determined about, but from the perfect *Knowledge* of *Matters* of *Fact* diversly reported; and, for all that hitherto has appeared, with equal *Authority* on *both Sides*. In a word, a *WAR*, in which, tho' hitherto we are no way engaged, yet the *Events* thereof may suddenly constrain us to pursue *Measures* of another kind, and to furnish at least our *stipulated Auxiliaries* to *those* who may justly demand them.

Secondly, That notwithstanding this *Situation* of Things *abroad*, there is a restless and uneasy *Faction*, perpetually disturbing the *publick Peace* at *home*, and thereby lessening, as well the *Dignity* of *Great Britain* in the *Opinion* of *Foreign Powers*, as depriving their fellow *Subjects* of those

those *Blessings* and *Benefits*, which, but for their continual Murmurs, they might enjoy. That such a *Faction* really does subsist, is manifest from the Heats, Jealousies and Heart-burnings, which discover themselves in almost every Part of his Majesty's *Dominions*. But for a more express Description of this *Party of Men*, we shall decline giving it till by and by; because we desire to produce at the same *Time* our *Proofs*, in order to avoid all *Reproach* of building on *Falsities*, or begging the *Question*.

Thirdly, That the *Choice* of a new *Parliament* is now at hand, on the *Proceedings* of which all *Europe* will fix their *Eyes*; and on whose *Deliberations* and *Determinations*, the *Fate* of these *Nations*, at least for a long *Series* of *Years* to come, will strongly depend.

If in so nice a *Conjuncture*, as this appears to be, it should happen (which Heaven avert!) that the *People* of *Britain*, unattentive to *Matters* of the greatest *Importance*, *Matters* which plainly call for their *Regard*, and which ought to merit their deepest *Attention*, should on the contrary listen to a *Number* of spiteful *Declaimers*; Men careless of their *Country*, and yet continually pouring forth the *Ravings* of what they call *publick Spirit*: Into how dangerous a Condition may they plunge the *Common-wealth*, when, instead of casting their *Eyes*, as *Merit* shall direct, on *Persons*,

sens, who are worthy and capable of doing their Country Service in the great Council of the Nation, they shall attend to nothing but the Gratification of Party Spleen, and the sending such Representatives, as may carry all their Passions and Resentments into that august Assembly, where unbiassed Wisdom and cool impartial Justice ought only to reign.

Or on the other hand, how secure, in the midst of all the Events which by the present unsettled State of Affairs in Europe can be brought about, may the Inhabitants of this happy Island remain, if they preserve but as great Regard for the publick Safety, as every Man would be sure to shew, if it were become his private Concern; if, forgetting idle Disputes, and reasonless Animosities, throwing by odious Distinctions and unmeaning Appellations, they would consult nothing but the Service of Britain, and pay Respect to none of their popular Demagogues, but as they deserve it by a Behaviour of the same Tenor: How fearless, under the Protection of a Senate, chosen by Men in such Dispositions, and the Auspice of a King, who has never shewn any Inclinations, which were not only unprejudicial, but highly advantageous to his People; might we enter upon the Execution of what they should direct; and how confident might we be of Success, thro' the divine Assistance.

Having

Having presumed to mention his *Majesty* in the last *Paragraph*, I cannot forbear repeating, and repeating as a good *Omen*, what he was graciously pleased to deliver from the *Throne* on the very Head of which I have been *speaking*.

* “ I am very well pleased, that this Opportunity offers of taking again the Sense of my People, in a new *Representative*; that the World may see how much their true Sentiments have been mistaken or misrepresented. Those, who see and hear only at a Distance, may easily be imposed upon, and from thence conceive false Hopes or Fears; but I am confident, a little Time will remove all groundless Surmises, and it will be found, that *Great Britain* is always ready to act that Part, which the Honour and *Interest* of the Nation calls upon them to undertake.”

How candid, how sincere, how full of a just Confidence in the *Wisdom* and *Integrity* of the Body of his People, are the few Lines which I have quoted? How admirably do they become a *British Monarch*? and how earnestly may we wish that *Patriotism* may appear with the same Lustre in the Country, as we see it shine with

* See his Majesty's Speech, Jan. 17. 1733.

from the *Throne* ? This *Language* ought indeed to persuade us ; when, instead of *Notions* of Power, Glory, or Dominion, which take up the *Minds* of other *Printes*, and that sometimes to the *Ruin* of their *People*, we hear nothing but the desire of protecting, defending, and doing good to his *Subjects*, from our *King* ; and perceive his *Wishes* warm only for our acting for our own *Good*, and for the supporting that *Ease*, *Tranquillity*, and *Dignity*, in which hitherto, from the beginning of his *Reign*, he has *maintained* us.

What, as yet, I have been saying, consists of Arguments so plainly *cogent*, that they cannot be controverted ; or of *Matters of Fact*, too notorious to be *denied* : But I am aware of an *Answer* which may be given me ; and in which indeed the whole of what the *Chiefs* in the *Opposition* plead as the *Source* of their extraordinary Behaviour, is, in truth, contained. It is in few words this : That all *Kings*, having a propensity to *Tyranny*, and all *Ministries* being alike ready to promote the *Views* of their *Masters*, in order to promote their own *private Interests* ; it is therefore a Happiness to a *free People*, that they have a Party always among them zealously inclined to oppose the *Court* in whatever Measures it takes ; their whole Conduct resting on a *Scripture Rule* inverted, viz. *Do no Good, lest of it there come Evil*. However oddly this *Doctrine* of keeping up *Divisions* may sound ; however *irreconcilable* it be

[II]

be to *Patriotism* or *Religion*; and however inconsistent it may appear with the *Malecontent*; modern *Panegyrics* on a *Coalition*; yet the following *Paragraph* will fully prove that I have neither invented this *Charge*, nor placed it in too strong a *Light*.

* “ The *Sovereign Prince*, who rules in a LIMITED MONARCHY, has an *Opportunity* open to him for *Life*; and such an *Opportunity*, as requires NO EXTRAORDINARY PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS: He may possess every VICE or WEAKNESS, which is opposed to the VIRTUES, or appearances of VIRTUE, requisite in the other Case; and yet may destroy the LIBERTY of the BRAVEST PEOPLE upon EARTH. The pretences for concealing his *Designs*, and the helps for carrying them on, which his *Situation* will abundantly compensate for the disadvantages arising from his PERSONAL CHARACTER, and will secure his *Success*, if the PEOPLE are brought by *Artifice* or *Accident* to grow remiss in watching over their LIBERTIES.”

These are the *Reasons* urged by the *Craftsman*, for keeping up a continual *Opposition* to the Measures of our *Administration* in a limited Monarchy; for raising, preserving and inflaming

* *Craftsman*, 218. Sept. 5. 1730. Seventh Volume, p. 11.

such an *Opposition* in this *Kingdom* ; nay, for the very *Steps* taken by *him* and his *Associates* at this *Day*. In these *Reasons* then, or no-where, we are to look for all the *Grounds* of their *Conduct* ; and for those *Evils*, which from all they *say* and *do*, they would lead us to believe they *fear*. Now these we have *distinguished* as well as we *can*, following therein only the *Distinctions* they had themselves *made*, and from whence it will *appear*, Who it is they *malign*, and from whom all these *Mischiefs* are *apprehended*. I must own, that neither the *Passage* already *quoted*, nor what is advanced in the long-laboured *Declamation* from whence it is taken, seem to me to carry much *Weight*, or to deserve greater *Regard* than a *School-Boy's Theme*, or an *Academical-Orator's Speech* on a *proposed Subject* ; for every thing advanced thro' the whole is founded only on *Supposition* ; and the whole *Train* of its *Arguments* amount to no more than a continual *begging the Question*, and then reasoning upon it, as if it were really *given up*.

Yet, as *weak*, as *pedantick*, as *declamatory* as the whole of that elaborate *Oration* I have referred to, must seem to a *Man of Sense* and *Impartiality*, it is immediately made the *Cause* of a *Person's* coming over to the *Party* of the *Craftsman*, who had a very ill *Opinion* of *him* and *them* before ; for this very good Reason, that he had observed the *Nation* perfectly easy and quiet,

quiet, till their blowing the *Trumpet* of *Sedition*, and raising a loud *Storm* against *Corruption*, because no-body had thought *them* worth *corrupting*. But, as I have hinted, on the hearing this most moving *Discourse* he drops his *Sentiments* at once, and enters on the following elegant *Recantation*.

† “ I own my self a good deal reconciled to
 “ the Craftsman, by the Discourse you held
 “ when we were last together: That some Incon-
 “ veniencies must follow from keeping this Spirit
 “ of Jealousy and Watchfulness always alive,
 “ seems to me very evident; but I begin to
 “ think, that this Evil may be necessary, in
 “ order to secure us against greater; every
 “ System of human Invention must be liable to
 “ some Objections, and it would be chimerical
 “ in us to expect a Form of Government liable
 “ to none. Even *Theocracy* was attended by
 “ some real Inconveniencies according to the
 “ *Jewish History*; and neither the *Divine Pre-*
 “ *sence* in the *Tabernacle*, nor the *Ambulant O-*
 “ *racle* which the *Priest* carry’d about with him,
 “ could preserve entire *Purity* in *Religion*, or
 “ good Order in the *State*. We must be content
 “ therefore to bear the Disorder I apprehend
 “ from that *Ferment*, which a perpetual *Jeal-*
 “ *ousy* of the *Governors* in the *governed* will

† Craftsman 219. Sept. 12, 1731. Seventh Volume, p. 14.

keep

“ keep up, rather than abandon that *Spirit*, the
 “ *Life* of which is the *Life* of *Liberty*. When
 “ the *Jealousy* happens to be ill placed, we may
 “ hope it will not rise to any great and dangerous
 “ *Height* : when it happens to be well grounded,
 “ it may have the good Effect of destroying a
 “ WICKED MINISTER ; of checking a BAD ;
 “ or of reclaiming a MISGUIDED PRINCE.”

Would not any sober Man stand amazed at
 the *Impudence* of a Writer, who, to justify the
 Conduct of his *Party*, would introduce the *Ex-*
ample of the *Israelites*, who grew weary of the
Government of GOD, and murmured against his
Minister Moses in the midst of *Miracles* and *Mer-*
cy? Could it have ever entered the *Brain* of a
disinterested Person, one who had a View only
 to serve his *Country*, to have asserted, that *Fac-*
tion was a public *Blessing*, and that the most
 effectual manner of *serving* the *Common-wealth*
 was to *disturb* its *Peace*? Might not one, from
 such *Paradoxical Doctrines* in *Politics*, be led to
 believe, that as there were no *Notions* so absurd
 as not to have been maintained thro’ the *Pride* of
 some *Philosophers*; so no *position* could be so dan-
 gerous, so destructive to the *State*, as not to re-
 ceive *Countenance* from some *Malecontents* or
 other, shrouding themselves under the Title of
 PATRIOTS? In a word, notwithstanding
 the vast *Reputation* the *Craftsmen* have attained
 as *Writers*, the *Compliments* paid them by their
 Corre-

Correspondents, and the warm *Strokes* of *Panegyrick*, which Mr. *D'Anvers* has from *Time* to *Time* bestowed upon himself; I defy him, or his *Associates*, to produce from any *political Scribler*, who has ever troubled the *World* with his *Labours*, a *Passage* big with more *Inconsistency* or *Nonsense*, than this, which he has put into the *Mouth* of his *Convert*.

I know very well, that the *Broachers* of this whimsical, as well as wicked *Assertion*, have made a *Distinction* between that *Spirit* they pretend to have raised and to keep up, and that *Spirit* which I alledge them to have raised and supported; the former they have dignify'd with the *Titles* of a *Spirit* of *Liberty*, a *Spirit* of *Jealousy*, a *Spirit* of *Watchfulness*: Against whom? Why, against the *KING* and his *Ministry*, since the *Patrons* of the *Craftsman* have been out of it. And these *Epithets*, they would have us take for *Proofs* of its being a very different *Thing* from a *Spirit* of *Faction*, or a *Spirit* of *Party*. But I would ask them, what *Faction*, what *Party* did there ever exist in any *Age*, or in any *Country*, who laid not *Claim* to this *Spirit* they boast of? Did not *Pisistratus* subvert the *Athenian Constitution*, under pretence of being fired with the *Spirit* of *Liberty*? Was not *Phocion*, the most renowned and worthy *Patriot* of *Greece*, murdered by a *Crew* inflamed with a *Spirit* of *Jealousy*, that this good *Man* might some time or other

prove

prove a *bad one*? Are not the *Speeches* and *Letters* of *Cataline* full of a pretended *Spirit of Watchfulness*, eked out with the common *Complaints* of the *Craftsmen* ---- *That mean Fellows attained to Dignities* — *While such deserving Persons as himself and his Associates were totally neglected.*

If ever any *Doctrine* was repugnant to *common Sense* and *common Honesty*, surely this (which, as we have *shewn*, and as from *various other Passages* from the *same political Manual* we could *shew*, is made the very *Corner-stone* of the *present Opposition*) carries that *Repugnancy* in the very *Face* of it. What *Light*, I beseech the *Craftsmen* to tell me, was *Government* ever set in, to which this *Preservative* of theirs can in any *Degree* be made accord? The *Comparison* between the *natural* and *political Body*, is of very *ancient Standing*, and is a very *apt one*; let us see then, how the *Spirit of Jealousy* would contribute to the *Safety* of the *latter*: Should the rest of the *Members* grow *suspicious* of the *Head* and *Hands*, and refuse at ever *Turn* to *obey* or *assist them*, what would be the the *consequence*? Or will the *Similitude* of a *Ship*, to which the *Common-wealth* has been *likened*, serve their *Turn* better? Would it be for the *Interest* of those on *board*, that continual *Distrusts* should subsist between *them* and the *Captain*, from an *Apprehension* of his having *sinister Designs* of doing *Mischief* to his *own Ship*?

What

What unaccountable *Stuff* is all this? As if *Liberty* were a Thing not to be enjoyed *peacefully* and *thankfully*, for fear of *losing* it. Would it not have been enough to have asserted the *Right* of *Freemen* to resist, when *Methods* are taken to *subvert* their *Freedom*; or to have proved, that *evil Kings* and *evil Ministers*, were to be *opposed* for the *sake* of our *Posterity* and our *Country*; without avowing a *perpetual Controversy* with those who *govern* us, and unceasing *Heart-burnings* against every *Man* above us? *Ingredients* towards *National Happiness*, no *State-Empirick* ever hit on, till *Caleb's* knowing *Correspondents* furnished him with the *Receipt*.

As this *monstrous Position* must be condemned by the *Voice* of every *Man's Reason*, who will allow himself to consider it *calmly*; so if *Authority* can add any *Weight* to the *Decision*, it has already been expressly *declared* against by every *Author*, ancient and modern, who has so much as touched on *Politicks* with *Reputation*. To this purpose, I might quote *Thucydides* *Aristotle*, *Livy*, *Tacitus*, *Plutarch*, and a long & *cætera* of *famous Men*, who have left us *Writings* on *Government*; but that I aspire not at a *Character* for *Learning*, nor would burthen my *Readers* with an unnecessary *Weight* of *Evidence*.

C

However

However, as it is the Custom of Mr. *D'Anvers* to lay great Strength upon such *Citations*, and to value himself much on his immense Skill in *political Literature*, I hope the Publick will indulge me a little upon this Head; and, led by this Hope, I will begin with a *Passage* from *Salust*, who, as he has been ever esteemed one of the best Authors in the *Latin Tongue*, so he has justly obtained a great Reputation from his judicious *Remarks* on the *Temper*s and *Dispositions* of *Men* at those *Periods* of *Time*, when he records their *Actions*; yet instead of commending this *Spirit* of *Jealousy* and *Watchfulness* in a *Common-wealth*, we find him describing it thus, and charging upon it the *Ruin* of the *Roman Greatness*, in one of the *Fragments* which are left us of his first *Book* of his *Histories*.

“ When by the *Ruin* of *Carthage*, *Rome* was
 “ left without a *Rival*, and thereby a *Way* was
 “ opened to *Disturbances* at home, many *Broils*
 “ and *Seditions* were excited, which at length
 “ determined in *Civil War*; then a few *aspi-*
 “ *ring Men*, conciliating to themselves the *Af-*
 “ *fections* of the *Multitude*, under pretence some-
 “ times of *protecting* the *Nobles*, at others, of
 “ *rescuing* the *People*, assumed the *sovereign*
 “ *Power* into their own *Hands*. There were at
 “ different times stiled *good* or *bad Citizens*, not
 “ as they deserved *ill* or *well* of the *State*; for
 “ as

" as to that, all were alike *corrupt* ; but as they
 " were more or less *rich* or *powerful* ; for in
 " those *Days*, if a Man were but *successful*, he
 " was called *Good* of course. From this *Period*
 " of *Time* our *Manners* degenerated, not as be-
 " fore, by *little* and *little*, but *precipitately*, like
 " the Descent of a *Torrent* ; our *Youth* being so
 " corrupted through *Luxury* and *Thirst* of
 " *Wealth*, that it might be said of them with
 " Truth, they were a *Race* of *Men*, incapable
 " of managing prudently their *own Fortunes*,
 " or of suffering others to enjoy theirs at
 " *quiet*.

It is clear, that *Salust* inveighs here against
 Men thrusting themselves into *too great Power* ;
 not by abusing the *Authority*, by which they
 were legally raised, but by spiriting up the *Peo-
 ple*, under specious Pretences, to over-turn the
present Power, be it what it would, that so they
 might tyrannize themselves. This he makes the
 End of all *Factions*, and indeed upon very just
 Grounds ; so that if our present *Constitution*,
 were as heavy a *Grievance*, as it is indeed a va-
 luable *Blessing*, a speedier or more certain way
 of flinging it off our *Shoulders*, could not have
 been devised, than the propagating the *Doctrine*
 of the *Craftsman*, * in *Season* and out of *Sea-
 son*, as himself directs us.

* *Craftsman*, Vol. 7. p. 13.

Among the Writers quoted by Mr. D'Avenant, I remember, Dr. Davenant is one; and, as that Gentleman has acquired a very good Character from his Writings, I will on this Occasion make Use of him for a Witness, to prove, that Jealousies and Heart-burnings are far from increasing the Power, or preserving the Liberties of any Nation.

† “ Great Empires, in the Beginning well constituted, might be immortal, but for civil Diffensions; the Romans, tho’ their Commonwealth was frequently divided into Factions, for a long time preserved themselves, partly by the Gravity and Wisdom of the Patricians, and partly by the Modesty and Temper of the Commons; but their State was overthrown, when afterwards in their turns both Sides came to extream Courses. For Extremities, mutual Affronts and Injuries, beget such Hatred, as is never to be reconciled, and must either quite subvert the State, or produce a total Change in the Constitution.

“ Nothing likewise more contributed to save that People for some Ages, from the ill Effects intestine Discord occasioned, than by their

† Davenant’s *Essays on Peace and War*. P. I. p. 12.

“ laying

laying it aside, as they constantly did, when ever they were threatned by Dangers from abroad, &c.

But it will perhaps be alledged, that it has been always admitted by *Writers*, pretending any Zeal for *Liberty*, that *evil Ministers* ought to be opposed, and *evil Kings* resisted; nay, it may be urged, that I have granted as much *my self*, which I will not deny: But then here comes the *Question*, How shall we distinguish and find out *evil Ministers* and *evil Princes*? Nor is the *Answer* hard; by their *Fruits*, by their *Actions*, their *Attempts*, their *Declarations*. If a *Court* should endeavour to possess *People* with ridiculous *Notions* concerning the *divine Right* of *Kings*, and from thence proceed to exact an *unlimited illegal Obedience*, under pretence of its being a *damnable Sin* to oppose or resist them. If a *Court* should aim at oppressing the *Subject*, under pretence of supporting and defending *Religion*; or to let loose one *Party* on the other, in order to weaken both. If a *Court* should levy *Taxes* by *Virtue* of the *King's Prerogative*, without the *Consent* of the other *Branches* of the *Legislature*. If a *Court* should pretend to alter, dispense with, or abrogate the *Laws* of the *Land*, under colour of their being the *King's Laws*: Or finally, if a *Court*, to render it self terrible, should raise a *standing Army*, by its own *Interest* in the *King's Name*, against the *Will* of the *Nation*,

Nation, and without its having any *Security* of their being employed against *Enemies* only. If any, or all of these *Evils*, should be brought about by the *Will* of a *Prince*, or the *Arts* of an *Administration*; then those who should exert themselves in *curbing*, *resisting*, or *overturning* these *Oppressions*, would be indisputably **PATRIOTS**, staunch Supporters of *Liberty*, and *Friends* to the *Constitution*; as by pursuing this *Traſt*, the **WHIGS** very justly acquired those glorious *Titles*, when they delivered us from *Tyranny* of every kind, by effecting the **REVO-LUTION**.

But because an *Opposition* may be sometimes and in some Cases (those too very evident ones) just, honourable, and for the publick *Benefit*; does it follow, that an *Opposition* is always necessary, and that every *Prince* would become a *Tyrant*, every *Minister* a *Plunderer*, if they were not kept in Awe by a *Faction*, flying continually in their *Faces*? Is not this too loose and general a *Position*? Does it not appear to be calculated for another *purpose* than is pretended? Or can any *Body* suppose the *Freedom* of *Britain* so trivial a *Thing*, as to be ravished by *Force*, or taken away by *Fraud*, before any one could run to its *Assistance*; unless a *Body* of *Men* keep their *Eyes* on the **KING** and his *Ministers*, who, in consequence of their *Offices*, are to be supposed
ready

ready on the first Opportunity to *snatch* this *Palladium* and carry it off?

Is it simply impossible, that we should ever have a *good King*, and under him a *wise* and *honest Administration*? or, if this be possible, ought they to be *opposed* and *contradicted* in every Thing? or will not this *Method* of treating the *Government* do infinitely more *Mischief* to the *People*, than to the *Prince* and his *Servants*? Have we not had as *late* and as strong *Experience* of the fatal Consequences of such a *Conduct* in this *Nation*, as ever happened in any? Were not all the *Misfortunes* attending the late glorious *King William*, in his *Wars abroad*, for the Defence of *Europe* in *general*, and in Defence of *Britain* in *particular*, justly chargeable on this *Cause*? Did not the *publick* run into *vast* and *needless Debts*, through the mean, the wicked, the corrupt *Opposition* of pretended *Patriots*? Is it in the *Power* of any *body*, to aver, that the *Commons* of these *Kingdoms* reaped the smallest Advantage, from the undutiful and ungrateful *Behaviour* of an *insolent Faction*, towards a *brave*, a *wise*, a most *magnanimous Prince*? or can it be denied, that the *Publick* received infinite Damage therefrom? The *Success* of the *War* in the late *Queen's* Time, was it not wholly owing to that *Union*, that *Coalition* of *Parties*, which subsisted during the *first Years* of her *Majesty's* *Reign*? Were not the Disorders, Tumults,

mults, *Desertion of her Allies, Loss of Glory, and the unhappy Peace, concluded by Men, who were desperate, the Result of a Faction gaining Strength enough to drive out an honest Ministry, and to hoist themselves into Power? what People in their Senses would make the same Mistake in so narrow a Compass of Years, and trust the very Men, who brought them then to the very Edge of Ruin?*

As *Government*, according to the *Notion of Writers*, unchargeable with *Bigottry*, is instituted for the *Benefit of the governed, i. e. of the People*; it follows, that those, who are entrusted with *Power*, should not be cramped or restrained from exerting it to the *Purposes* for which it was given; because this is absurd, and contrary to the *Design of bestowing it*; nor is the *Thing* at all altered, tho' the *Persons restraining* should pretend they did it merely to hinder those *Trustees* from making a *wrong Use of Power*, by convincing them, that it was not impossible to check it; for be the *Pretences* what they will, the *Publick* must suffer from such *Conduct*; nay, if these *Trustees* should be afraid of being called to *Account* by some future *Faction*, for not doing what by this *Faction* they were hindered to do, they might be thereby led to attempt the softening such an *Opposition*, by undue *Favours*, and so *Corruption* be introduced, to do the *State* real *Service*. Such Consequences *Faction*

tion has been often attended with, nor in reason can it be denied, that continual *Feuds*, instead of reducing *things* into good *Order*, usually produce all those *Evils* which those who raised them pretended to prevent.

But to deal no longer in *General*: As I have proved, from various *Arguments*, that the *Doctrine* of the *Craftsmen* concerning the Necessity or Expediency of keeping up a continual *Opposition* to the Measures of those in the *Administration*, is absurd in itself, and dangerous in its *Consequences*; as I have shewn, that such a *Notion* as this is by no means deducible from the practice of former *Patriots*, who opposed only *Administrations* plainly endeavouring to subvert the *Constitution*: So I will go on, in the third place, to demonstrate, that the present *Malecontents* are so far from having the smallest Title to the *Appellation* of *Patriots*, or of a *Country Party*; that, on the contrary, they are a wicked, ill-designing *Faction*, instigated by *Malice*, private *Views*, and disloyal *Intentions* to destroy the present *Ministry* without *Cause*; to bring their *Majesties*, and their illustrious *Family*, into *Odium* with the *People*; and even to mangle and subvert our *Constitution* itself, in order to bring about their own ambitious *Designs* of assuming to themselves *supreme Authority* over the *Nation*. In proving this *Charge*, I shall not have recourse to what others have said of the *Craftsmen*, but

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produce

produce what the *Craftsmen* have said of themselves, I mean in their *weekly Lecture* the *Country Journal* ; and I crave nothing more of the *Free-holders* of *Britain*, whom I would have the *Judges* of this *Accusation*, but *Attention* and *Impartiality* ; *Qualities*, with which for their own sakes, I most sincerely wish they would arm themselves in all *political Disputes*.

As to the first Point, of endeavouring to destroy the *present Ministry*, and particularly the *honourable Person*, whom the *Faction*, with a malicious *Obsequiousness*, have dignified with the *Style* of *Minister* and *Prime Minister*, without *Cause*, unless being in *Power* be *sufficient Cause*, and then the *Kingdom* can never have *Quiet*. Before I advance my *Evidences* from the *Craftsman*, I must premise two things: *First*, That such an *Attempt* is very *injurious* to the *Nation*, which I have already *shewn* ; and, *secondly*, That in a *Country* so really *free* as ours is at this *Day*, it is impossible for a *Ministry*, much less a *Minister*, to be *rapacious*, *corrupt*, or *insolently proud* and *oppressive*, without putting it in *Power* of those who *oppose* him to alledge *Instances*, as well as to bring general *Charges* ; since, without the *former*, the *latter* can deserve no *Regard*.

Immediately after the *Decease* of his late Majesty, the highest personal *Abuses* were thrown out against his *Ministry*, either from the *Expectation*
of

of seeing them immediately removed, or in hopes that these very *Abuses* might prove a *Means* of effecting it: Of this *Nature* was the following *Advertisement*.

* *For the publick Good.*

“ This is to give Notice, that the celebra-
 “ ted Dr. *Robert King*, who has performed so
 “ many wonderful Cures in this Nation, de-
 “ signs, in a short time, to retire from publick
 “ Business, having acquired a comfortable Sub-
 “ sistance from his Practice, and spend the Re-
 “ mainder of his Days in the Country: All
 “ Persons therefore, who are troubled with any
 “ degree of the Spleen or Vapours, are desired
 “ to apply to him forthwith at his House in
 “ *Arlington-street*, otherwise they will be ex-
 “ cluded from the Benefit of his Remedies.”

† A Month afterwards another *Fragment*, of the same kind of *Wit*, was published, to inform the *Publick* of the *Sale* of the *Doctor's Physic-Gardens* at *Chelsea*. Now would I be glad to know how these *Advertisements* conduce towards the *publick Good*. Do they prove HIM, against whom they are pointed, an *Evil Minister*? No, certainly; for they may be applied to the most *righteous Man* in the *World*, who had a *Town*-

* *Craftsman* No. 51. June 17. 1721.

† No. 54. July 15. 1727.

House in Arlington-street, and a Country-House at Chelsea; or were they intended to inform the World of an important Piece of News before it broke out of itself. No, that could not be, for, as to the matter of them, it was an utter Falsity. Were they then designed for no more than to raise a Laugh? Then is Mr. D'Anvers a Merry Andrew, not a Patriot; and must have a very despicable Opinion of those whom he hoped to tickle by these low Jokes.

When the *Craftsmen* discovered, that all Hopes of the *Change* they wished for were proved abortive, and that his *present Majesty* inclined not to employ any of those who had disturbed the *last Years* of his *Father's Reign*, they immediately laid aside their *Loyalty* and their *Fawning*, and began *Hostilities* again, by insinuating to the World that the M—— was to be trusted as usual to work *Compliance* by *Corruption*. Here are their own Words.

ADVERTISEMENT.

* Whereas it has been falsely and maliciously reported, that the famous new-invented COURT-EAR-KNOTS were going out of Fashion; and that the GENTLEMAN who sold them had left off Business: This is to acquaint the PUBLIC, that he only shut up his SHOP for a few Days on

his LATE MAJESTY'S DEATH, and hath since opened it again; where all Persons, who have any Occasion for those ORNAMENTS, may be accommodated with them at present, on reasonable Terms; but the Price will be considerably advanced in the WINTER, when the COMPANY comes to TOWN.

N. B. Persons who can dispose of any QUANTITY in the COUNTRY, will have a LARGE ALLOWANCE.

Behold the ARTS of the FACTION! Mark how the popular Clamour has been raised. The present M—— is an evil One. Why? The Craftsman asserts it. On what Authority? Universal Report. How was that Excited? By the Craftsman himself. How do you know that? He owns it and boasts of it. Is not this acting the Patriot? Deserve not the Men who abet these Measures to be styled a Country Party?

It would be a tedious Task, or rather an impracticable one, for me to attempt running over those bold unproved Invectives which have from Time to Time been thrown out against the M——; all built on the * old Maxim of casting much Dirt that some may stick, and without the least Regard to Truth, Decency, or, in short, to

* Craftsman, No. 218. Sept. 5. 1730.

any thing—but doing *Mischief*! However, it may be necessary to put the World in mind of a few of them, that, like detecting a *Juggler's Tricks*, they may be prevented from receiving *Applause*, when they shall be next play'd over.

Among the many ridiculous *Lights* in which the Situation of our Affairs, under the present *Government*, have been set by the *Craftsmen*, that of a *Farce*, intitled, *The Mock MINISTER; or, HARLEQUIN a STATESMAN*, may be justly reckon'd one of the most *impudent* and *glaring*; for, not contented with representing those in the *Ministry* as a Set of inconsiderate *Blockheads* and rapacious *Knaves*, the *People of Britain* are brought upon the *Stage* as hungry *Naked Creatures*, utterly deprived, by the *Wickedness* of those in *Power*, even of the *Necessaries of Life*. At the close of this fine Piece, their *MAJESTIES* are, without much *Ceremony*, introduced and made to *Nod* their *Heads* at the sad State they find *Things* in; to deliver up the *wretched Minister* to his *Enemies*; and, last of all, — mark the *disinterested Patriot*, they transfer the *Wand* and other *Engines of Authority* into the *Hands* of a CERTAIN GENTLEMAN of NOBLE PRESENCE, who has this *Inscription* on his *Breast*.

Sola Bona, quæ Honestæ.

That

That is in plain *English*, to set Things to rights ; a certain *popular Squire* is made *prime Minister*, who has been all his *Life-long* famous for *loving* his *Country* better than any *Thing*, except his *MONEY*.

The next remarkable Stroke of Mr. D'Anvers's extraordinary *Genius* for *Satire* is another *Advertisement*, usher'd in with

† To all the good People of England ;

This is to give Notice.

Wherein, under the Designation of Signior *Roberto Trufferello*, an *honourable Person*, who is the continual *BUT* of the *Faction's* Malice, is modestly charged only with *Corruption* and every *other Crime*, both *H----* of *P----* and their *M--* having their *Share*, tho' without the least *Attempt* of *proving* any *Thing* ; for the *Design* of the *Craftsmen*, is not to *detect Crimes* or *punish Offenders*, but to render the *Constitution* odious by *Dint* of *repeated Imputations*, that the *People* may become *mutinous* and *themselves* thereby *necessary*. It may be answer'd, that this is only my *Construction*. But I would fain know, to what other *End Libels* of this *Kind* can be sup-

posed to *tend* : While our *Constitution exists*, we must have a *King*, a *M----* and a *H----* of *L----* and *C----* ; now while we *have these*, any malicious *Villain* may *traduce* them in the same *Manner*, as Mr. *D'Anvers* does in his *Advertisement*, and with just the same *Degree of Reason*. For what future *Prince* shall escape the *Imputation* of a *Design* to enslave his *Subjects*, if such an *Inuendo* can find the least *Degree of Credit* at present ? What *Minister* shall avoid the *Charge of Corruption*, if being at the *Head of the Treasury*, and *unimpeached by Parliament*, be said a *sufficient Proof* thereof, or even a *just Ground of Suspicion* ? Or what a *Character* shall the *British Senate* bear, if the *Minority* are only to be judged *honest* ? Yet these *Facts* are boldly maintained in this *Advertisement*, and in *fifty other Places* in the *Craftsman*, without *Evidence* ; nay, without the *Pretence of Evidence*. If this be objected to the *Party* ? — They answer either — That the *Thing* has no *relation* to the *present Times* — which is evidently *false* — Or — That they are persuaded the *Publick* will *believe it* — which is only asserting, that the *Envy* of the *People* is infinitely *stronger* than their *Judgments* ; otherwise such low *Stuff* would not be *received*, nor a *Paper* and *Party* esteemed for doing *Things* in *high Life*, which would render them *infamous* in a *middling Station*.

Ridicule

Ridicule is, according to the *Sentiments* of the *Chiefs* in the present *Opposition*, the best *Test* of *Truth* and *Merit*; and whatever cannot stand the *Trial* of a *scurrilous Wit*, is to be esteemed low and base. This *Notion*, wherever they picked it up, is a very *idle one*, and in the present *Case* as far from being just as can be. *Epictetus* says very rightly, that *Things* have *two Handles* or *Sides*, which I, on this *Occasion*, beg *Leave* to have called a *grave Side* and *grotesque Side*. If we consider a *Thing* in the first *Light*, it appears *solemn* and *magnificent*; if in the *other*, *whimsical* and *silly*; as *Words* are only the *Images* of our *Thoughts*. He who has *seriously* attended to the *grave Side* of any *Subject*, if he has occasion to *express* himself about it, will describe it in the *Manner* it appeared to him, and his *Description* will naturally suggest a *like Strain* of *Ideas* to the *Mind* of his *Reader*: Just so the *Grotesque Painter* in *Letters* furnishes you with a *ridiculous Picture* of the *Things*, which has employed his *Thoughts*; and, if he hath *happy Talents* in his *Way*, will *ten to one* set you a *laughing*. But still the *Nature* of what is *represented* remains *unchanged*; and if you would thoroughly *understand* it, another *Method* must be taken, than listening to those *Praters*. For Example,

In one of Mr. *D'Anvers's* Papers, we have a florid Description of the *Plunders*, *Treasons* and *Insolencies*, committed by *Knez Menzisoff*; with

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what Degree of Truth they are set down, I pretend not to determine; but, as he was Minister, Mr. D'Anvers hated him; and, as he was at that time in Disgrace and Distress, he could safely abuse him: When therefore his Crimes had been swelled and exaggerated to the utmost, a sudden Transition is made from Muscovy hither, and a Knez of our own is talked of, as excelling Menzicoff in every Kind of Villainy laid to his Charge.

* “ This English Knez (these are the Words) made every thing subservient to his own insatiable Avarice and Ambition, and constantly engaged his Master in Quarrels, and made him consume his own and his People's Treasure; sometimes to assist the Emperor against France, at other times France against the Emperor; changing and shifting the Party according to his own Passions and Interests, &c. — Every one will, I suppose, judge, that I mean nobody but Cardinal W--- ” The Wit and Satire of this smart Piece, designed to cover a Minister with the foulest Imputations, consists entirely in the Letter W, which you know begins both *Wolsey* and *Walpole*, and of consequence proves, as strongly at least as the Craftsmen ever prove any thing, that *Wolsey* and *Walpole* are both bad, and equally bad Ministers — What an admirable Weapon is Ridicule in a Hand that has the Skill to use it?

* Craftsman, No. 86. Feb. 24. 1727-8.

But

But I am very willing to own, that *Raillery* has not been the only *Method* of *Attack*, which the *Craftsmen* have made Use of against the *Ministry*; or, as they will needs have it, against the *Minister*. I am sensible, that they have sometimes laid by their *Stilletos*, and engaged him openly; but then, I insist on it, they have been as manifestly *baffled* and *defeated* in their *Attempts*, as ever any *political Bravos* were, who intended the *Ruin* of a *Man*, armed both with *Wisdom* and *Integrity*. As an Instance of this, I will quote the most direct and positive *Declaration*, which I ever knew them publish in the *Country Journal*; it was originally printed after the memorable *Dispute*, which happen'd on Mr. ——— publishing what carried the *Marks* of *Falshood* in it self, and which he owned was spoken to him in *Confidence*. It seems both he and his *Associate* were under some *Apprehensions* at that *Time*, and, the better to conceal them, thus did they *rant*.

W.P. and H. B. to ----

* “ The Persons, whom you threaten, Sir,
 “ neither value your Favour, nor fear your An-
 “ ger; whenever you attempt any Act of Pow-
 “ er against any of them, you shall find, that

* Craftsman, No. 235. Jan. 2. 1730-1.

“ you have to do with Men, who know that
 “ they have not offended the Law, and there-
 “ fore trust that they have not offended the
 “ King ; who know that they are safe, as long
 “ as the Laws and Liberties of their Country
 “ are so ; and who are so little desirous of being
 “ so any longer, that they would be the first
 “ to bury themselves in the Ruins of the *British*
 “ Constitution, if you, or any Minister as
 “ desperate as you, should be able to destroy it
 “ ---- But let us ask on this Occasion, what you
 “ are who thus presume to threaten ? ---- Are
 “ you not one, whose Measure of Folly and
 “ Iniquity is full ; who can neither hold or quit
 “ his Power with Impunity, and over whose
 “ Head the long gathering Cloud of national
 “ Vengeance is ready to burst ? Is it not Time
 “ for you, Sir, instead of threatening to attack
 “ others, to consider how soon you may be at-
 “ tacked your self ? How many Crimes must
 “ be charged upon you and yours, which almost
 “ every Man can prove ; and how many more
 “ are ready to start into Light, as soon as the
 “ Power by which you now conceal them shall
 “ determine ? ---- When next you meditate Re-
 “ venge on your Adversaries, remember this
 “ Truth : *The Laws must be destroyed before they*
 “ *can suffer, or you escape.*

Would

Would not a Stranger, who read this swelling Paragraph, imagine, that those who *speak* in it had been really *threatened*, and that they had it in their *Power* to do something more than *threaten*? When alas! there was not a *Syllable* of *Truth* in the *first*, and in *three* Years time they have done nothing towards the *second*. His Majesty indeed, of his own proper *Motion*, had caused the *Squire* to be removed from a *Board*, where *blabbing* was a *Quality* by no means *convenient*; but as to the *Person* they hint at, he neither *did* or *threatened* any thing. Safe in his *Innocence*, and the just *Sense* his *Master* had thereof, he smiled at their *impotent Malice*, as setting no *Value* on their *Favour*, nor fearing the utmost *Efforts* of their *Vengeance*. His *quondam* *Lordship* dwells still unmolested by a *Government*, from which he has once received *Pardon*, and in return for which he daily *offends* it. There are indeed too many *Associates* of his *Crimes*, and of his *Madness*; Men, who are weary of *Peace* and *Liberty*, and who are *Enemies* to those who *preserve* it, and, to his immortal *Honour*, *bate* in a most *eminent* *Degree* the noble *Person* hinted at in the last *cited* *Passage*. But their *Intrigues* have been *fruitless*, their *Charges* *insignificant*; would you know the *Reason*, they are *feigned* and *false*: *Calumnies* invented to support the *Spirits*, and keep alive the *Malice* of their *Faction*, on which thin *Diet* it must continue to feed, while

Things

Things remain under the Direction of the present wise and temperate Administration.

Thus shall I close the Proofs offered as to the first Head of my Impeachment against the Craftsman, and I think may be allowed to say, that in the Nature of Things, clearer Demonstration cannot be had of the Truth of that Proposition, which I laid down, viz. That the Malecontents have persecuted the present Ministry, from malicious and private Views only: Had it been otherwise, Facts and Reasonings, not Fables and Raillery, would have been the Weapons made use of. The Insolence of Buckingham; the Greediness of some Ministers in the next Reign; the Incroachments on Liberty made by King James's Administration; the Plunders, Treasons and scandalous Mismanagement of Bolingbroke and his Implements, were set forth and made manifest in another Manner; even while Power was in their Hands, and while they were neither restrained by the Sense of Justice or Mercy in the Use of it. But the Means now practised to bring an Odium on those, whom his Majesty intrusts, are the same which destroyed the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl Godolphin, and other great and good Men, and which, towards the End of her late Majesty's Reign, had well nigh destroyed the Nation it self.

But

But if it be a *Crime* (as undoubtedly it is one) to slander *those* in *Power*, which must of consequence create *Stirs* and *Uneasinesses* throughout the *Kingdom*; then surely it is a much *higher Crime*, by invidious *Reflections*, glaring *Parallels*, and oblique *Declarations*, to traduce the *Prince* upon the *Throne*. We *know*, and we *knew*, before the *Craftsman* was written, as well as we *do now*, that the *Monarchy* of *Britain* is a *limited Monarchy*. But are we not therefore to *love* our *King*? Must we continually suspect him of *desiring* to become *absolute*? and in consequence of such *Suppositions*, constantly *thwart* and *oppose* him? Is there not the strongest Reason to *believe*, that the *contrary Behaviour* would have a *better Effect*? Why should not *Princes*, as well as *private Men*, be wrought upon by kind and obliging *Deportment*; or what *Grounds* have they to suppose them more than *Men*, as to this *Point*, and that they will be *passive* under continual *Affronts*? The *Poles* themselves, who value a *useless* and uneasy *Freedom* at a higher Rate than a settled and gentle *Government*, are not wont to *libel* their *Princes*. Indeed this *Mark of Liberty* belongs to us alone, that we pay hardly any *Regard* to *Majesty*, and make freer with our *SOVEREIGNS*, than in other Countries it would be lawful to do even with an *inferior Magistrate*,

Magistrate, Offences shocking in their *Manner*, and which in their *Consequences* may prove fatal.

It is an Observation of the famous *Algernon Sidney*, that the greatest *Enemies* of a *Prince*, are those, who endeavour to invalidate the *Contract* between him and his *People*; that is, who endeavour to possess him with *Notions* prejudicial to them; and I think the *Converse* of this *Proposition* is true, that the greatest *Enemies* of a *People*, are those, who labour to stir up among them groundless *Jealousies* of their *King*, and to alienate their *Affections* from him, whom both the *Law* and their own *Choice* have constituted their *SOVEREIGN*; such *Attempts* are *Attempts* toward confounding *Right* and *Wrong*, and prejudice *Society* in the highest *Degree*, by taking away all *Encouragement* to *Virtue*. For, according to their *Practice*, a *T R A J A N* may meet with the same *Treatment* as a *N E R O*.

If a *Man* was to have formed a *Judgment* of the *L O Y A L T Y* of the present *Malecontents*, from their *Conduct* on his *Majesty's Accession* to the *Throne*, he must have concluded, that no *People* in the *World* had a warmer *Affection* for their *Prince*. But it seems what they affected, was the getting *Power* into their own *Hands*, by a little *Flattery* and *Fawning*, at the *Opening* of a *Reign*; but they found themselves mistaken, their *Offers* were vain, their *Measures* were ineffectual;

effectual ; and, as soon as they discovered this, they *Opened the Campaign* in the *Craftsman* ; by various ADVERTISEMENTS, of which we have before spoken : In these the *Inuendo's* are as strong against the *King*, as against the *Ministry* ; the *former* being wounded thro' the *Sides* of the *latter*.

But the *Chiefs* in the *Opposition* have not acted always in the same *Manner*. They have frequently shewn an open Dislike to the *People's Loyalty*, and have taken Occasions to promote a quite different *Spirit* with great Readiness and Vehemence : An *Early Instance* we have of this in a *Craftsman*, written within a *Month* after his present *Majesty's* coming to the *Crown* ; when, according to an ancient and laudable *Custom*, he was saluted from various *Parts* of his *Dominions* by *Addresses*, a *Letter* to Mr. *D'Anvers*, signed URBANICUS, was thrust into the *World*, to check that Zeal which the *People* discovered for a PRINCE, who had been always dear to them from the *Moment* of his coming among them ; nor is this Design much disguised, as appears from the *Letter* itself.

* TO CALEB D'ANVERS, Esq;

SIR,

" Whilst all Parts of the Kingdom are daily
" sending up their Compliments of Condolence

* *Craftsman*, No. 53. July 8, 1727.

F

" and

“ and Congratulation to his present *Majesty*, on
 “ the Death of his *Royal Father*, and his own
 “ happy *Accession* to the *Throne*, and seem to
 “ vye with one another in the most *Loyal* and
 “ *Dutiful Addresses*, it cannot be unseasonable to
 “ present the Reader with some cursory
 “ *Observations* on that *Subject*.”

Then, pretending great Haste as an Excuse for dropping in a great *measure* the *Thing* he has in this *Paragraph* proposed, he introduces a long Account of the *Means* made use of by the *Court-Engines* in King *Charles the Second's* Time, to procure *Addresses* to serve a *Turn* from the *City of London*, where an *Address* was then preparing to his *Majesty* now *reigning*; and this part of his *Invective* is concluded thus:

“ The same *Gentleman* told me, that he had
 “ seen the *Addresses* of those *Times*, which had
 “ been suborned and promoted in the most
 “ vigorous Manner, signed by *Porters, Coblers,*
 “ and the *meanest* of the *Rabble*; for, as the
 “ *Number* of Hands was the chief Point in
 “ view, they cared but little of what *Rank* or
 “ *Condition* they were. He farther observed,
 “ that, upon looking over *some* of the *ROLLS*,
 “ he saw but *few Subscribers* whom he had ever
 “ heard of before; that several *odd Names*
 “ seemed to be written by the same *Hand*, and
 “ several

“ several others in disguised and counterfeited
“ Characters.”

In order to bring this home, after a very awkward Sneer of its having nothing to do with present Times, the *Sage Urbanicus* proceeds in these Words :

“ It is indeed to be lamented, that any Dis-
“ sension should arise in the Performance of so
“ necessary a Duty ; and that the Congratulations
“ of this Loyal City should be less universal
“ than their Joys seemed to be on his MAJE-
“ STY’S Accession ? ”

It would be a very laborious, as well as very unpleasant Employment, for me to heap up all the Passages in the *Craftsman*, which plainly, and beyond Controversy, are intended against the most *Illustrious Prince* on the *Throne*, his *Royal Consort* and *Family*. To say Truth, this is not my Design ; for such a Scheme would have swell’d this Piece to a degree of *Tediousness*, which would have made its Perusal troublesome. The Point I have in View is, by setting some of these many *Insults* in a true Light, to convince my Readers, that notwithstanding the Pretence of some of the Party, who put on the specious Appearances of *inviolable Duty* and *Respect*, true Loyalty is not to be expected among the *Craftsmen* ; who, as they are Men of insatiable Ambition, leave no means untried to acquire the

utmost *Stretch* of *Power*, which could be exercised in these *Kingdoms* : To this *End*, all *Parties* are careſſed, and ſome of the *Craftſmen* are allowed to make a *Semblance* of *Submission* to their *King*, and even of profound *Reſpect* for his *Perſon*. But there have been *Inſtances* of all this *Varniſhing*, when it has been judged a proper *Season* for theſe pretended *Loyalists* to act openly in *Concert* with their *Brethren*, as may, if the *Fact* be queſtioned, be plainly proved.

Not long after the *King's* *Acceſſion*, when there was ſome doubt whether we ſhould be engaged in a *War* or not, and his *Majeſty* thereupon, as is cuſtomary at the beginning of a *Reign*, thought fit to view the *Troops* in his *Service* ; an *Act*, one would have thought ſo reaſonable and proper, that every *Man*, who ſo much as mentioned it, might very well have been expected to underſtand and commend it : Yet the *Craftſmen*, perceiving their *Pains*, their *Compliments*, their *Offers*, were all in *vain*, and every fond *Notion* they had conceived of *riſing* in the new *Court* defeated, immediately laid hold of this *Opportunity* for renewing their *Declamations*, utterly unmindful even of their *Paper* of *Advice*, in which the *King* had been exhorted to make uſe of his own *Eyes*, and to truſt as little as poſſible to his *Servants* ---- and blind to all the obvious *Reaſons* which might induce the *King* to undergo ſuch a *Fatigue*, as well as to the numerous

rous good Effects which this *Vigilance* in their *Royal Master* must produce to those who were employed in his *Majesty's Service*, either as *Officers* or *private Men*, in as much as it diffused a Spirit of Zeal, Circumspection and Diligence throughout the *Army*. Yet Mr. *D'Anvers*, to turn the present *State of Things* into Ridicule, to gall the Officers in the Service, and to throw some *Aspersions* on HIM, who encouraged and assisted in the Reviews, drew up and printed the following Loyal and modest Specimen of his Wit.

* “ *The humble Petition of Col. James Platoon.*

Sheweth,

“ **T**HAT your Petitioner hath been at an
 “ extraordinary Expence in compleating
 “ his Regiment, and providing himself a great
 “ Quantity of black Bags, Ribbands, Poudrieres
 “ and Shoulder-Knots, with other Accoutre-
 “ ments, necessary for the Service in case of a
 “ War.

“ That he was obliged to sell a Bear, in or-
 “ der to buy two Horses, and is now likely to
 “ be a great Loser by both, unless his Case be
 “ taken into Consideration. He therefore hum-

* *Craftsman*, No. 77. December 23. 1727.

“ bly

“ humbly prays, that the Army and Taxes may
 “ be continued ; without which, your Petitioner
 “ and his Family will be liable to great Incon-
 “ veniencies, which he apprehends ought rather
 “ to fall on the Publick than a private Person.

And your Petitioner, &c.

In the Situation Things were in at that Time, this *Petition* was doubtless very well calculated to do a great deal of Mischief, by rendring the Government at once, both odious and contemptible to the *People* ; as loading them with *Taxes* to maintain a *Standing Army*, who were to dress and powder out themselves for the Entertainment of their KING --- Suggestions equally just, decent and loyal. But we shall proceed to *some*, which are still more gross, and more plainly point out the *Designs* of this *Faction*.

In a *Craftsman*, July 13, 1728, great Pains is taken to possess the *People* with a *Belief*, that we were running into an *absolute* Government, by keeping up a Body of *Land Forces*, which are represented as an irrational illegal *Burthen* on the *People* ; whence they might learn, that *arbitrary Power* would quickly follow, and his Majesty's most gracious *Promise* in his *Speech* is quoted as an *Argument* for making a large *Reduction* of the Forces ; tho' both *Houses* of *Parliament*, from a just *Sense* of the *State* of *Affairs*

in *Europe*, had taken order for *keeping up* only such a *Body of regular Troops*, as were necessary to preserve these *Kingdoms* from any sudden *Insult*, and to give a proper *Weight* to the *Negotiations* then carrying on, and afterwards perfected, when his *Majesty's Promise* was fully complied with.

Nay, to so excessive a Pitch of Impudence did the *Authors* of this *weekly Libel* about that Time proceed, that we have the *Ministry* arraigned for *lying* the *Parliament* out of *Supplies*, tho' they *spoke*, as they declared, by the *King's Direction*, and his *Majesty* had mentioned the same *Things* from the *Throne*. * The *Craftsmens Words* are these: "There is another Sort of *POLITICAL*
 " *LYING*, more dangerous and inexcusable, if
 " possible, than what I have been mentioning,
 " which hath been often practised in *SENATES*,
 " *DIETS*, and other *POPULAR ASSEMBLIES*,
 " in order to raise exorbitant and unnecessary
 " *SUBSIDIES*, by false Representations, and
 " giving them groundless Assurances of *PEACE*,
 " or some other advantageous Terms to the
 " *COMMUNITY* which they represent: A *Minister*, who makes use of such Methods to *extort Money* from the *PEOPLE*, deserves the severest Censures, as he makes the *Welfare* of the *Publick* the Pretence for *oppressing* it, and

* *Craftsman*, No. 112. August 24. 1728.

“ is therefore a much more detestable CHEAT
 “ than a COMMON SWEETNER, who tricks
 “ well-meaning People out of their *Money* by
 “ sanguine *Promises* of immediate and extraordi-
 “ nary *Gain*.

“ Some Persons will object perhaps, that this
 “ is an *imaginary Evil*, and that it is impossible
 “ for any MAN, notoriously possessed of such a
 “ vile *Quality*, to raise *himself* to any *Degree*
 “ of *Power* and *Credit*, or at least to support
 “ HIMSELF long in it. But I dare say, Mr.
 “ D’Anvers, that your long *Experience* in the
 “ World must have enabled you to discover,
 “ without the Help of LANTERN, some
 “ such WORKERS in DARKNESS and INT-
 “ QUITY.

It may be wonder’d at by some of my Rea-
 ders, that, considering the Usage the *Government*,
 and even his MAJESTY, has RECEIVED; for the
 foregoing *Passage* was aimed at his SPEECH
 from the THRONE, as I will prove, if it should
 become necessary: I say, it may be wondered at,
 that FORCE has not been employed, and the
 LAWS suffer’d to take their Course against the
Authors and *Patrons* of these infamous *Libels*;
 for certainly no *Constitution* was ever so framed,
 as to have a *Power* in the Subject, to revile and
 defame the *supreme Magistrate*, and those put in
Authority by him. But it has been the Practice
 of

of those in the *Administration* to suffer by *Liberty* when in *Power*, with a *Patience* equal to the *Vigour*, with which they exerted it when *out*. And this too without discriminating between the *Calumnies*, *Insults* and *low Accusations*, which are the *sole Weapons* of the present *Malecontents*, and the *Reason*, *Boldness* and *Weight of Proof*, which distinguished the *Attacks* made by the present *M*— on those, who *misled* their SOVEREIGN and *betrayed* their COUNTRY.

Without wasting Time in ransacking the voluminous *Labours* of the *Faction*, let us now descend to the *seventh Tome* of Mr. *D'Anvers's Lucubrations*, and examine those polite modest *Essays*, which have the Name of OLDCASTLE subjoyned to them, and which were expressly written to shew from the *British History*, how fatal *Factions* in this *Realm* had been to its *Monarchs*; the Intent of which *Doctrine*, without straining, may very well be taken to amount to this: That, by the *Example* of his *Predecessors*, his MAJESTY might learn how dangerous the present *Malecontents* might in time become, and be thereby induced to make such *Concessions* as should engage them to alter their *Conduct*, i. e. *compliment* them with his *Power* at least, if not his *Dignity*; a *Doctrine*, as destructive to the *Liberty* of the *People*, as to the *Authority* of the *Prince*; for it is notorious, that none suffer a more abject *Slavery* than the *Poles* under a *titu-*

lar King, and the Subjects of Venice, tho' their Duke be without Power.

In the very opening of Mr. Oldcastle's Minutes of *English History*, we have the most glaring Insult offered to the Crown in a *traiterous Position* delivered in the *Language of Billingsgate*.

*“JOHN came to the Crown after the
 “Death of his Father *Henry the Second*, and
 “his Brother *Richard the First*, by the *Election*
 “of the *People*; his *Electors* indeed found them-
 “selves *deceived* in their *Expectations*, for he
 “governed in the most *extravagant* manner: But
 “they soon made him feel whose CREATURE
 “he was. The Contest between the *Laity*, and
 “an *ambitious* usurping *Clergy* ran very *high* at
 “this time, JOHN had made his Advantage
 “of these *Divisions* — But the *Spirit of Liberty*
 “prevailed, and that of *Faction* vanished before
 “it. Men grew ashamed of being the *Tools* of
 “*private Ambition*; as the *publick Safety* was at
 “Stake, those of the *high Church*, and those of
 “the *low Church*, united in one common Cause,
 “and the King BLUSTRED and DREW
 “OUT HIS ARMY; but it was a *BRIT-*
 “*ISH ARMY*; no wonder therefore, if
 “the KING SUBMITTED, and a *Magna*
 “*Charta* was signed.”

* Craftsman, No. 222. October 2. 1730.

Shortly

Shortly after, we have a *Lesson* given out in the plainest and most direct Words which it was possible to *select*, as full of *Loyalty* and *Manners* as this we have *quoted*.

* “ A PRINCE, who adds to the NATIO-
 “ NAL STOCK, has a *Right* to *share* the
 “ *Advantages* he *procures*, and may demand
 “ *Supplies* from his *People* without *blushing* : But
 “ a PRINCE, who lives a RENT CHARGE
 “ on the *Nation* he *governs*, who sits on his
 “ *Throne* like a MONSTROUS DRONE in
 “ the middle of a HIVE, draining all the
 “ COMBS of their HONEY, and neither
 “ *making* nor *assisting* the industrious BEES to
 “ *make* any : Such a PRINCE, I say, ought
 “ to *blush* at every GRANT he receives from
 “ a *People* who never received any *Benefit* from
 “ HIM. The Duke of Gloucester told RI-
 “ CHARD II, on his restoring BREAST to
 “ the Duke of Britany, That he should have
 “ taken a *Town* by his own *Valour* and *Conduct*
 “ before he resigned what his *Ancestors* had left
 “ him. Much to the same purpose might an
 “ *oppressed People* answer a braving PRINCE :
 “ When you have encreased the Riches, and
 “ advanced the PROSPERITY of the NA-
 “ TION, you will have some Reason to make

* Craftsman, No. 228, October 9. 1730.

“ these DEMANDS upon us; but TILL
“ THEN we shall think you have NONE.”

The very next *Paper* furnishes us with a very extraordinary *Display* of the *Failings* of King RICHARD II. Thus it *begins*, which plainly points out its *Intent*.

“ The glorious *Scene* of *Government*, which
“ display’d itself in the *Reign* of EDWARD III,
“ was strangely alter’d on the *Succession* of RI-
“ CHARD II, a *violent*, *haughty*, *obstinate*,
“ and *weak* PRINCE; whose *Reign*, as one of
“ our *Historians* observes, affords but little Mat-
“ ter that may *shine* in *History*; and cannot
“ boast of any *One* great and distinguished
“ *Captain*, any one *memorable Battle* or impor-
“ tant *Siege*; but *Prorogations* of *Truces*, *Ab-*
“ *stinancies*, *Sufferances*, *Patiences*, *Tolerances*,
“ were the *Language* and *Amusement* of the
“ *Times*, and *Treaties* were all the while kept on
“ *Foot* for a perpetual PEACE.”

In the same *Paper* we are told,

“ The *Justness* of the CHARACTER
“ given before of RICHARD II, discover’d
“ itself very early in his *Actions*. He had a
“ BRUTALITY, and a good Opinion of him-

“ self, one of which might have betrayed him in-
 “ to a *Discovery* of what it was his *Interest* to con-
 “ ceal, if the other had not made him capable of
 “ doing it, even on *Reflection*; hence came those
 “ famous and foolish *Sayings* of this PRINCE,
 “ which *History* has preserved, and which gave
 “ his PEOPLE timely Warning, what they
 “ were to expect from him. Of his *Commons*
 “ he said, THAT SLAVES THEY WERE,
 “ AND SLAVES THEY SHOULD BE,
 “ &c.”

By and by we have a fair Warning given us
 of *Standing Armies*, let them be raised, paid and
 commanded by *whom they will*, that is, of the
Army in being.

* Let us conclude, that all *Standing Armies*,
 “ for whatsoever *Purpose* instituted, or in what-
 “ soever *Habit* cloathed, may be easily made the
 “ *Instruments* of *Faction*; because a *Body* of
 “ *Men* separated, in many *respects*, from the rest
 “ of the *Nation*, constrained to different *Customs*,
 “ and in some measure subjected to *different*
 “ *Laws*, may be easily persuaded, that they
 “ have a *different Interest*. Let us conclude,
 “ that these CASUISTS in RED are the most
 “ dangerous in this respect; that having
 “ SWORDS by their SIDES, they are able

* Craftsman, No. 228. Nov. 14. 1730.

“ at once to cut those *Gardian Knots*, which
 “ others must only by *Degrees*.”

It is not difficult at all to determine the *End*,
 to which these *Conclusions* and *Arguments* drive.
 The *Army* kept up by the *Authority* of *Parliament*,
 bridles *Faction*, and therefore the *Factions*,
 under the *Umbrage* of *Liberty*, are for having
 this *Army* disbanded, that they may act with-
 out *Constraint*.

In remarking on the *Reign* of *Henry VIII*,
 after having commended him highly for not
 pursuing the same *avaricious Designs*, which had
 been pursued by his *Father*; he goes on,

* “ He was too wise or too honestly counsel-
 “ led in these *Beginnings* of his *Government*, to
 “ pursue such *Measures*, or to employ such
 “ **MINISTERS** — But far from grieving and
 “ provoking his **PEOPLE**, by countenancing
 “ the most **HATED** and the most **JUSTLY**
 “ **HATED MEN** of the whole *Kingdom*, he
 “ threw these **CRIMINALS** out of the **SAN-**
 “ **CTUARY** of the *Court*, and exposed them
 “ to that *National Vengeance* under the *Weight*
 “ of which they perished.”

In a succeeding *Dissertation* on the same
Reign, we have a *Reflection* brought *Home* to the

K---, L--- and C---, and that without any Reserve.

* “ Thus a Precedent was made of converting into ordinary Aids of the GOVERNMENT, those HEAVY TAXES, which ought never to be felt by the PEOPLE, unless on the most extraordinary Occasions ; that they ought to be laid in Time of WAR, neither was, nor ever could be doubted ; that they were equally necessary in Times of PEACE, was now established by the LOGICK of the COURT ; and we may be sure, that the Argument would have been urged with still more Force and Effect, if the NATION had fallen by the Management of the COURTIERs in that Age, into such a Situation, as could neither be called properly a STATE of WAR or a STATE of PEACE.”

The Zeal of these Patriots against Foreign Princes, and Foreign Dominions, is discover'd by a Remark on the Reign of KING JAMES the first, which could be introduced to no other End, but to suggest the Expediency of divorcing the El-- of H--- from the Crown of Great Britain.

† “ The Crown of Sweden belonged to Sigismond, and in Course of Descent ; but Sigismond

* Craftsman, No. 233. Dec. 19. 1730.

† Ibid. No. 246. March 20. 1730-1.

“ was a *Papist*, and King of *POLAND*;
 “ for both these *Reasons* he had been *excluded*,
 “ and his Uncle *Charles* preferred to the *Throne*
 “ by the *States* of *SWEDEN*, who proved by
 “ the *ACT* of *SETTLEMENT*, not only that
 “ their *KINGS* should be of the *Religion* of their
 “ *Country*, but that *none* of the *Princes* of the
 “ *Royal Line* should accept *another Crown*, nor
 “ any *FOREIGN DOMINIONS*; their *Ex-*
 “ *perience*, it seems, had shewn them the *Necef-*
 “ *sity* of such *LIMITATIONS*.”

But to shew how little the *Craftsmen* are to be
 rely'd on, notwithstanding their occasional *Pro-*
 fessions of *Loyalty* and *Attachment*, it will be ne-
 cessary to quote a *Paper* of a *later Date*, where-
 in the *Minister* is severely *ridiculed* for detecting
treasonable Correspondence.

* “ It must be confessed, that the *honourable*
 “ *Gentleman* had this *Capacity* to make some
 “ *farther Discoveries* in this *Affair*, than any of
 “ the *Committee*; for he proved it undeniably
 “ to the *House*, that *John Thompson* the *Ware-*
 “ *house Keeper*, in *Confederacy* with *Signor*
 “ *Belloni*, and other *Popish Accomplices*, had
 “ not only defrauded the *Proprietors* of the
 “ *Charitable Corporation*, but likewise carried
 “ on, under that *Cover*, a most *detestable Plot*

* *Craftsman*, No. 313. July 1, 1732.

“ against

“ against his MAJESTY’S GOVERNMENT, and
 “ the PROTESTANT SUCCESSION ; nay, that
 “ this infamous *Conspirator* had entered into
 “ the *Service* of the *Corporation*, with no other
 “ *View* or *Design*, than to *plunder* them, for the
 “ *Benefit* of the *Pretender*. This part of the
 “ *Discovery*, I say, was entirely owing to the great
 “ *Penetration* of the *honourable Gentleman*, who
 “ traced this *Dark Scene* of *Iniquity* thro’ all
 “ its *Mazes*, and laid it open to the *House*, with
 “ such admirable *acuteness* and *perspicuity*, that
 “ it was unanimously resolved to inflict an *ex-*
 “ *emplary Punishment* upon the *Letter*, which
 “ was designed as the *Instrument*, and happily
 “ proved the *Means* of *discovering* the *whole*
 “ *Plot*. It was not only voted an insolent and
 “ audacious *Libel* ; but was *burnt* with great
 “ *Solemnity* at *Noon Day*, in the most *publick*
 “ *Place* of this *City*, by the *ignominious Hands*
 “ of the *common Hangman*. So may all *PLOTS*,
 “ and the *Authors* of them *perish* for the *Honour*
 “ and *Safety* of this *Kingdom* ! ”

It would be hard to determine, whether the
Sneer in this *Paragraph* against the *M—*, the
K—, the *R— F—*, or the *H—* of
P—, be the more *severe* ; for certainly *each*,
 and *all* of *them*, are treated with so outrageous
 a *Ridicule*, that the *Writer* must be supposed
 void of all *Respect* towards *any* of *them*, who

H

could

could bring himself into so high a pitch of Impudence, as the publishing this Libel required.

I will conclude this Branch of my Accusation, with a late Stroke of D'Anversian Policy, or modest Remonstrance from the Malecontents to their----

* “ *Oderint, modo timeant*, was the Saying of
 “ one of the Tyrants of Antiquity ; and it is the
 “ Maxim of them ALL, and hath justly proved
 “ the RUIN of MANY : What can be expected
 “ from a PRINCE, hated by his SUBJECTS ;
 “ but Violence and Oppression, Rage and Resent-
 “ ment ? Poor and precarious is the Comfort he
 “ would draw from their Fears ; those Fears
 “ may and will sooner or later subside, but
 “ their Hatred never ; and the Fate of a Nation
 “ in such Circumstances cannot be very long in
 “ Suspence. It must be very soon decided, either
 “ by enslaving the People, or (WHICH IS
 “ MORE PROBABLE) BY THE OVER-
 “ THROW OF THE PRINCE.”

Behold the Lessons, the Menaces, the Judgments denounced by the ORACLE of the MALECONTENTS against his ----- in case he persists in retaining a M-----, or a M----- against their Wills, and after their Admonitions to remove them.

* Craftsman, 387. December 8. 1733.

As

As neither *Loyalty* to the *Person* of their *Prince*, or *Respect* to his *Dignity* as such, hath been able to restrain those *Men* from throwing out *Inuendo's Parallels* and *Satyrs*, which manifestly tend to weaken the *Esteem*, and to withdraw the *Affections* of the *People* from their *SOVEREIGN*; so they have not been withheld by the *Distinction* of *SEX*, or that *Complaisance* which protects *Women* in *High Station* from open and cruel *Aspersions*. I say these *Circumstances* have not withheld them; but, on the contrary, they have openly, and with the most rancorous *Malice*, hinted the basest *Calumnies*, in order to spot a *Character* as amiable as it is sublime.

Mr. Oldcastle, speaking of the *Reign* of *Henry VI.*, delivers himself thus:

* “ The *QUEEN*, *Suffolk*, and their *Creatures*, governed, with an *Absolute Sway*; the
 “ *Good Duke* of *Glocester*, who had opposed the
 “ *Match*, and was very formidable to the new
 “ *Faction*, on account of his popular *Virtues*,
 “ fell a *Sacrifice* to their *Resentments*----- These
 “ *Proceedings* of the *QUEEN* and her *Faction*
 “ set the *Kingdom* in a *Flame*, and drew upon
 “ them the *universal Hatred* of the *PEOPLE*—
 “ Soon after this, the *Marquis* of *Suffolk* was

* *Craftsman*, No. 230. Nov. 28. 1730.

“ created *Duke of Suffolk*, at the *Intercession* of the
 “ *QUEEN*--- From hence it appears, that the
 “ *Murmurs* and *Discontents* of the People did not
 “ arise from the *Intrigues* of the *YORKISTS*;
 “ but that the *Intrigues* of the *YORKISTS* arose
 “ from the *Murmurs* and *Discontents* of the
 “ People. *Rapin* says expressly----- That the
 “ *Disposition* most People were in, with regard
 “ to the *QUEEN* and *Ministry*, inspired the
 “ *Duke of YORK* with Hopes that he should
 “ one Day be able to assert his Title to the
 “ *Crown*; and in another Place, That the whole
 “ *Kingdom* rung with *Complaints* against the
 “ *Duke of Suffolk*. It was publicly said, he
 “ had betrayed the *State*. People complained,
 “ that there were but few *Persons of Parts*, and
 “ still fewer of *Honesty*, in the *Council*; that it
 “ was the same *Thing* with regard to those in
 “ publick *Posts*, in whom *Honesty* and *Ability*
 “ were not so much required, as an *Attachment*
 “ to the *Ministry*. They were no less dissatis-
 “ fied with the *QUEEN*. *I will quote no more.*”

“ These last Words are surely as strong an
 “ *Application* as Words are capable of pointing out
 “ --- Yet the *Writer* of this *Paper* tells us in the
 “ *Close* of it:

“ As for their *present Majesties*, it is well
 “ known, that I have taken frequent *Opportuni-*
 “ ties to declare my *Attachment* to their *Illustri-*

"ous House; and I was so far from having any
 "such Intention, as hath been laid to my
 "Charge in these Historical Abstracts and Re-
 "marks, that I have used the utmost Precaution
 "to avoid such an Imputation. I could demon-
 "strate this, by producing *multitudes* of *Pas-*
 "sages, which I have *suppressed*, not only in
 "the *Reign* under our present *Consideration*, but
 "also in several former *Reigns*, merely from an
 "Apprehension that they might give these li-
 "centious Writers an Opportunity of exercising
 "their malignant Humours of *drawing Parallels*.
 "But I am sensible, that even my doing this
 "might be construed into the very Design,
 "which I profess to avoid: I must therefore
 "forbear at present and be *silent*; with this
 "Declaration however, that I shall be ready
 "at any Time to produce those Passages, when
 "I am called upon to do it, under a sufficient
 "Assurance, that no other Design shall be im-
 "puted to me, than my own *Justification*."

What must we think of a *Writer*, who after
 this solemn Declaration returns afterwards to the
 very same *Reign*, and fetches from thence the
 most invidious *Reflections*. It would too much
 swell our Work, to transcribe the Passages
 which glare in this second Paper; and therefore
 we chuse to refer them to the *Craftsman* it self,
 No. 309. June 3. 1732.

But

But, as if of late Days the Trouble of disguising Things were too much to be taken by so great a Person as Mr. D'Anvers, or Mr. D'Anvers's Patron, we have some Months ago had the *Præamble* of a *Patent* laid before the *Publick*, which at the same time as it openly loads the M—— with the vilest *Imputations*, it also *burlesques* and *prostitutes* the royal *Dignity*, and even turns the *Understanding* of the —— and his *conjugal Affection* for the Q—— into the *biggest Ridicule*. It begins thus :

* “ Whereas our *trusty* and *well-beloved* Counsellor *** hath distinguished himself in the most *notorious Manner*, and by his uncommon *LOYALTY*, and *incredible ATTACHMENT*, to OUR *INTEREST*, and (which is equally *OBLIGING* to us) hath manifested the same *RESPECT* and *dutiful DEPARTMENT* to our *DEAREST CONSORT* ; left an *ungrateful Neglect* of so *egregious* a Person should render us altogether *unworthy* of those many *IMPORTANT SERVICES*, with which he hath *ENRICHED* our *HOUSE* in the most *LIBERAL MANNER* ; and since hath at length vouchsafed to *wear* the *HIGHEST TITLES*, as well as *deserve* them, our *Will* and *Pleasure* is, that he should take his *Place* among the *Peers* of our *Realm*, and be *advanced* to that *exalted Station*, which his own *singular Modesty* has too long *declined*. ”

* Craftsman, No. 363. June 16. 1733.

Mr.

Mr. D'Anvers knew well enough, that none of his *Readers* were so ignorant as not to guess what *Name* his *Asterisks* stood for; tho' to say *Truth*, we may rather wonder he did not *insert* it, when he durst thus *insult* his *Majesty*, who is to be supposed *speaking* in this, as in all *Preambles*, and her *Majesty*, who is *sneered* at under the Title of *Dearest Consort*.

It is admitted by this great *Politician*, whose *Works* are the *BIBLE* of all the *Malecontents* in *Britain*, *Nemo repente fuit Turpissimus*; and indeed Mr. D'Anvers seems to have taken abundance of *Pains* in rising up to that *Degree*. At first he *carped* at small *Things*, and by and by he *attacked* the *Ministry*; then he *glanced* at *Maj-y*, but presently *pulled* in his *Horns*; but at last, hoping to *incense* the *Nation*, and to *break* the *Peace* of the *R—F—y*, he published an *epistolary Essay* on *DETESTED QUEENS*, as well as *bated Ministers*.

Under a pretext of quoting *Cardinal de Retz*, the wise *Correspondent* of Mr. D'Anvers runs into a *declamatory Character* of the *Queen of France* and her *Minister*; it is evident enough, that this *Passage* is dragged in to serve a *Purpose*, as is that also which follows it.

* “ *Cardinal De Retz*, speaking of an *UN-POPULAR QUEEN*, who supported A

* *Craftsman*, No. 387. Dec. 8. 1733.

“ MOST DETESTED FIRST MINITER,
 “ says, that he could never make her *comprehend*,
 “ much less *regard*, what was meant by the PUB-
 “ LICK; and accordingly by her *Administration*,
 “ during the long MINORITY of the KING,
 “ was one continued *Scence* of *domestick Troubles*,
 “ occasioned by the alternative Parts of FE-
 “ MALE RAGE and FEMALE FEAR;
 “ she loved her MINISTER, only because she
 “ knew HE WAS AS MUCH HATED AS
 “ HER SELF, and therefore thought him the
 “ *propereft Instrument* for her *Designs*, as having
 “ no REFUGE but IN HER. The MINI-
 “ STER chearfully accepted her FAVOUR up-
 “ on those *Terms*; as well knowing there could
 “ be no *Safety* for HIM, whilst there was any
 “ *Freedom* left in a *Country*, which he had op-
 “ *pressed* and *plundered* in such a *Manner*. He
 “ gave the last *mortal Blow* to the long TOR-
 “ TURED LIBERTIES of FRANCE.”

To these suffer me to add another general
Stroke on the Un-importancy of both K--- and
 Q---, under an *Allegory*; and I will rest the
Merits of my *Cause* on the *Evidence* which we
 have produced.

* “ No *Musick* but *his own* was to be allowed,
 “ tho’ every *body* was *weary* of it, and he had

* Craftsman, No. 353. April 7. 1733.

TROM

“ the

“ the *Impudence* to assert, that there was no Com-
 “ poser in England but himself. Even **KINGS**
 “ and **QUEENS** were to be content with what,
 “ ever low Character he was pleased to assign
 “ them, as is evident in the Case of **SIGNOR**
 “ **MONTAGNANA**; who, tho’ a **KING**, is al-
 “ ways obliged to act (except an angry rumbling
 “ Song or two) the most insignificant Part in the
 “ whole **DRAMA**. ”

Having thus closed the *Proofs* we thought suffi-
 cient, as to the *Aspersions* thrown out against their
 Maj-- , we judged it necessary to join a most fla-
 grant Instance of the *Craftsman’s Disrespect*, or ra-
 ther *Contempt* of all the R--- F--- ; for unless they
 had designed the rendering mean and odious in
 the Eyes of the People, not the Min--y, but the
 H--- of H--- in general, they could never have
 published so many base and groundless Calum-
 nies, set out and exaggerated by the most artful
Language, as the Reader will find extracted from
 a single Paper ; a Paper published within a Year
 after his Majesty’s Accession, and calculated to
 make his Reign uneasy by instilling Jealousies in-
 stead of removing them, as the outward Appear-
 ance of that Craftsman jesuitically pretends ; but
 Men must be blind indeed, and wilfully blind too,
 who suffer themselves to be deceived by such
 transparent Artifices.

I : : of : : * “ The

* “ The *Enemies* of the *Government* have lately had the Assurance to give out many of this sort amongst us in the *Country* ; one of which is (and a very remarkable one it is) that they have it from good hands, that a large Sum of Money will be asked in the next Session of Parliament towards defraying the Charges of the CORONATION. Neither You nor I, Mr. D’Anvers, can take upon our selves to say, that this is absolutely false ; nor indeed doth it become any one to foretell what may or may not happen in PARLIAMENT.”

Then proceeding to render this Story as probable as possible, and to insinuate the severest Censures on the covetous and narrow Tempers of those, who should support such a Scheme ; the *Craftsman’s Correspondent* goes on to another TALE, which he amplifies and dresses out to the best Advantage.

* “ Another invidious and mean Reflection, which the *Jacobites* make, is formed on what they hope will administer the greatest Cause for popular Uneasiness ; I mean, that PRINCE FREDERICK is not yet sent for, nor created Prince of Wales. This is what they wish the least of any People in England to see remedied ; and yet, as it serves a present Purpose, they

“ describe the remarkable *Virtues* of that most il-
 “ lustrious YOUNG PRINCE; they pretend
 “ surpris’d, that he is not sent for to adorn his
 “ Father’s Court, to converse with our Nobles, to
 “ become acquainted with our LAWS, our Cus-
 “ toms and our Manners; in short, to be wean-
 “ ed from the Society of FOREIGNERS;
 “ that the LAW touching the *Post-nati* may
 “ not create in *Englishmen* any unreasonable Pre-
 “ judices against him ---- But if any one expres-
 “ ses any Hope of seeing his Royal Highness
 “ amongst us, they sneer, shake their Heads and
 “ cry; *Ay*, when you make a larger Allowance
 “ to the Civil List; what, say they, do you
 “ think, that the present Civil List can support
 “ an additional Expence; without an additional
 “ Supply? You must yet give more Money before
 “ you see your Heir apparent; insinuating,
 “ that the Crown (which at all Events must
 “ have two hundred thousand Pounds a Year
 “ more than the late King had for himself, and
 “ at least two hundred and sixty thousand Pounds
 “ more than the late Queen actually received,
 “ and possibly the Funds may produce much
 “ more) still expect an Increase of its Revenue
 “ for the Support of the Royal Family.”

But notwithstanding the glaring Insolence of
 these Suggestions so poorly covered with a preten-
 ded Refutation, the Authors of the Craftsmen long
 after, when all these and many other Stories like

them, appeared to be *Forgeries* and *Lies*, plumed themselves on this *Letter* as a full *Proof* of *Loyalty*.

* “ I forgot to take *Notice* in its *due Place*,
 “ of the seasonable *Opportunity* I took to con-
 “ fute several idle *Rumours* and *Stories* industri-
 “ ously propagated by *Jacobites*, or other *disaf-*
 “ *fected Persons*; particularly, that a *large Sum*
 “ of *Money* would be *demanded* in the ensuing
 “ *Session*, for defraying the *Expences* of the Co-
 “ *ronation*; and then his *Royal Highness's Prince*
 “ *FREDERICK* would not be sent for into
 “ *England*, nor created *Prince of Wales*, with-
 “ out a farther *Addition* to the *Civil List*. I
 “ shall only observe upon this *Occasion*, that no
 “ such *Sum* was ever asked for that *Use*, and
 “ that his *Royal Highness* actually arrived in
 “ *England* before the *Meeting* of *Parliament*, to
 “ the great *Joy* of the *Nation*, and without any
 “ *Addition* to the *Civil List*; unless supplying
 “ the *DEFICIENCES* of it in the Year 1728.
 “ can be properly called so, which no *Man* of
 “ *common Sense* or *Discretion* will *DARE* to affirm.”

I intended next to have produced various *Passages* from the *Craftsman* hinting at *Errors* in our *Constitution*, and the *Necessity* of altering it; but while I have laboured in the *Composition* of this

* *Craftsman*, No. 283. Dec. 4. 1731.

Piece,

Piece, Mr. D'Anvers has saved me the Labour by a direct Declaration to this Purpose; from whence we need not doubt, that the Party will endeavour all they can to change and alter it, so as to make it subservient to their Designs: What they are, we cannot at present fully discover; but thus much, both from their Words and Deeds, appears, that they would prune off a Part of the royal Prerogative and erect a new, perhaps a tribunician Power in themselves; a Power, which at first sight might seem beneficial to the People; but the Finger of which, in a short time, would prove heavier than the Loins of Kingly Authority, as circumscribed in Britain by Law.

There is one Thing more I would observe, before I proceed to apply what I have been already saying; and that is, That as we have not the least Intent to call in the secular Arm to our Assistance, or by strained Inuendo's to furnish Materials for Informations; so we have touched only on such Passages, as were obvious enough in their Sense, and required no great Penetration to discover their Meaning. We have in this therefore done no more, than what Reason and Equity will bear us out in, and what all the Craftsmen desired the Readers of their Discourse should do; that is, apprehend the Drift of their Satire, tho' for prudential Reasons it might be with much Artifice skinn'd over and covered; nor have we maliciously raked together what-

ever

ever might *sound harsh* in the *Ears* of their S---; in order to *blacken* the *Patrons* of these *Dissertations*; for had that been our *Intention*, we might have mentioned almost a *hundred Instances* of *Disrespect*, more than are already set down; such as---^a The *Description* of a *weak* and *pusillanimous Monarch*, the *Ally* of his *Ministers*, who lives under *Guardianship*, and reigns by *Proxy*; in the *Close* of which his *present Majesty* is by way of *Compliment* compared to *Nero*---^b The *asserting*, that to *keep up* even an *Army*, raised and maintained by *Parliament*, is *ruling* by the *Sword* and *assuming Arbitrary Authority*; upon which the *Words* of his *present Majesty* from the *Throne* are *cast* in his *Teeth*, his *Promise* insisted on, and a *Pamphlet* quoted to *shew* no *Time* like the *Time present*---^c The *representing* the *Affairs* of *Britain* in the most ruinous *Condition*, from a *Treasurer* employed in *Corruption*, an *Army* ready to support him, and various other *Circumstances*, too foul for me to *venture* on *transcribing*---^d The *Dictating* to the *K---*, as to his *Choice* of *Ministers*, and his *Duty* in *governing*, as if he were really to *live* under *Guardianship*, and to *do nothing* without the *Advice* of his *Tutors*---^e The *drawing* a *glaring* and *invidious Parallel* between the *Reign* of a *Prince*, whom *He*, i. e. the *Craftsman*, represents as *Weak*,

^a *Craftsman*, 88, March 27, 1728. ^b *Ibid.* 106, July 13, 1728. ^c *Ibid.* 128, Nov. 9, 1728. ^d *Ibid.* 138, Feb. 22, 1728-9. ^e *Ibid.* 139, March 1, 1728-9.

Arbitrary and Avaricious, and the Present in Colours too strong to suffer our making any Mistake---- ^a The impudent Suggestion, that the same Arts, the same Engines, the same detestable Contrivances against the Persons and Properties of Men, are now encouraged, which were practised under the most cruel and outrageous Tyrants over the Roman Empire---- ^b The arrogant Censure passed on our Treaties with Foreign Powers, tho' negotiated by Royal Authority and approved by Parliament; and the open Arraigning his late and present Majesties Judgments on these Transactions, in a Paper known to be penn'd by him, who while a P---- C---- Libell'd his S----- Administration---- ^c The turning every thing done in Obedience to the King's Commands, resulting from a long Consideration of the State of Things throughout Europe, into high Ridicule; and treating the most important Transactions, as if begun and executed without common Sense--- ^d The displaying an unbounded Torrent of traiterous Billingsgate against those in Power, as if they managed all things at their Will, without Communication with, or Dependence on their Prince, who, content with the Title liv'd negligently, and without affording Attention to the State of his Dominions---- ^e The addressing, or rather instructing Members of the House of Commons, on the

^a Craftsman, 143, March 29, 1729. ^b Ibid. 160, July 26, 1729. ^c Ibid. 171, Oct. 11, 1729. ^d Ibid. 172, Oct. 18, 1729. ^e Ibid. 178, Nov. 29, 1729.

King's Proclamation for fixing the Day of their sitting to do Business; I say, the *instructing* them to *embarrass* the *publick Affairs*, and to do nothing which should be recommended to them by the K--- and his M--- * The taking every Opportunity, not only to hint and insinuate Things, reflecting on, and dangerous to the Government; but often straining things, to gain an Occasion of speaking in harsh, disrespectful, and even contemptible Terms, of his Majesty, now on the Throne, as when from the slip of a Man's Pen, in writing Possessors for Possessor, he argues, it amounts to an Assertion, that his Majesty admits some of his Servants into a Partnership of his Kingdom? ---- But we incline not to heap up Quotations.

You have now heard, Gentlemen, not the Matter only of our Charge, but the Proofs also, which, I may venture to affirm, support it to the full. On you, Gentlemen, it depends, to defeat the base Intentions of this Band of Factions, united to do Mischief. The Choice of a Representative is at Hand, and you may either put it into the Power of those Sons of Discord, to throw all things into Confusion, or to repose your Trust and Confidence in such Hands, as may effectually humble these vindictive Persons, and constrain them to let us live at Peace: Consider this

* Craftsman, No. 182, Dec. 27, 1729.

strictly

strictly and impartially, as a Point material to yourselves, your Country and your Posterity.

For should it *once* be brought about, that *Ministers*, whether *Good* or *Bad*, whether *Innocent* or *Guilty*, were to be persecuted, deposed and perhaps worse treated, through the *Intrigues* of a *Faction*; then must our *Government* sink of course into a *Democracy*, and the *State* be exposed to those violent and continual *Storms*, which shake all *popular States*, till they are either *broken* to pieces, or the *Frame* of *Rule* new modelled; and, instead of that *Ease* and *Tranquillity*, which our *Constitution* is so admirably adapted to *conserve* unto its *Subjects*, we should give up the *Peace* of *Britain*, to be mangled and torn by *Parties*, who would keep up an *everlasting Spirit*, which Mr. *Oldcastle* has taken so much *Pains* to raise.

The abetting *Men*, who have with such *Pains* traduced the *Government*, and ridiculed the *Person* and *Family* of their *Prince*, is to become a *Partner* in their *Offences*, and to declare in *direct Terms* against *HIM*, whom we ought to *obey*. When our *Princes* palpably *oppressed*, and secretly *endeavour'd* to rivet the *Chains* of *Slavery* upon us, we have gloriously resisted, and delivered our *selves* out of their *Toils*. But shall we now, when we enjoy all we can *expect*, and more than our *Ancestors* wished; when we have *annual Sessions* of *Parliament*, the *Laws* in their full *Vigour*, the

Prerogative fallaciously curtailed, and what is left of it rarely exerted. Shall we now, I say, resume the *Disposition*, which repeated *Injuries* excited in our *Fore-fathers*, and promote such *Sciss* as may produce a new *Revolution*, by which all these *Blessings* would be infallibly *taken away*.

Or lastly, having so long experienced the good *Effects* flowing from our present *Constitution*, and the equal *Distribution* of *Power* maintained thereby, shall we instantly *crack* it away, on the bare *Word* of the *Craftsman*, for the *Polish* Form of *Government*, where the *King* is almost a *Subject*, and the *Grandees* are *Tyrants*? Shall we change the present *Body* of *Troops* into a *Crown Army*, and instead of *guarding*, make *Use* of them to *awe* our *K*? Would such a *Mutation* as this contribute to our *Ease*, or to our *Welfare*, or to any other *Purpose*, but the gratifying private *Ambition*?

But I have said enough. The *FREEHOLDERS* of *GREAT BRITAIN* cannot but be *convinced*, who are the true *Friends* of their *King*, their *Country*, and their *Constitution*; and from this *Conviction*, I am persuaded, they will *act* as *becomes* them in their *Station*.

F I N I S